

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in 1993, Boris Yeltsin fell off a stage in Germany. In 1994, Boris could not get off his plane in Ireland. In 1996, Boris came up missing for 7 consecutive days, unexplained, before an election. In 1997, he forgot about a meeting with Vice President AL GORE. Yesterday, he fired his entire cabinet. The White House says they are monitoring it.

Mr. Speaker, is Boris Yeltsin a victim of El Nino, too? Let us tell it like it is. This guy is not exactly the head of Kiwanis International. Boris Yeltsin has his shaky little finger on the button of one of the world's most massive nuclear arsenals.

I say monitor this, Boris Yeltsin does not need monitors. Boris Yeltsin needs Alcoholics Anonymous. I say let us save our foreign aid and let us send some counselors over to take care of this guy. I yield back 1 day at a time the balance my time.

THE OVRETTE PROGRAM IN HONDURAS: A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share another tragic story of human rights violations abroad, this time in the country of Honduras.

For more than 34 years and with millions of dollars, women of Honduras have been victims of an overzealous population control movement. They have been subjected to sterilizations and mass contraceptive pill distribution without caution or required exams or information, funded entirely by U.S. taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, now we find that these Honduran women have been the subjects of a human experiment, this time with the Ovrette contraceptive pill, which has been used without any information about its potential side effects to the women taking the pill.

Instead of warning women that the effects of the pill were undetermined and that it should not be taken while breast-feeding, the USAID-led effort chose to strongly push the use of the pill among the women. At the same time, the government decided to monitor unsuspecting women to see what the effects of Ovrette might be.

To make matters worse, while this was going on, Ovrette was not even registered with the proper authorities, as is the law.

Mr. Speaker, this would not take place in America. It should stop in Honduras.

THE MORAL DEFICIT

(Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, in 1993 when I decided to run for

Congress, there were many reasons why I felt I should get involved in the political campaign. One of the main reasons was my concern over the national debt and deficit spending. My wife and I did not want to see our two children faced with a mountain of debt that would eventually destroy their future.

Now, just 5 years later, it is with a lot of relief and thankfulness that Congress has been able to balance the Federal budget. But today we are faced with a problem that is even greater and more destructive than runaway debt.

My children and the children of this Nation are faced with a society that is experiencing a moral deficit. Eighty-four percent of the American people say their biggest concern is the decline in the traditional moral values.

Mr. Speaker, if we give our children the richest economy in the world but a society that is morally bankrupt, what have we gained? Some would say, but it is the economy, stupid. But I disagree, because good economies come and go, but for a Nation to survive as history has proven over and over again, patriotism, courage, fidelity, honesty, and public and personal character must be the foundation on which it stands.

ELIMINATE THE MARRIAGE PENALTY TAX

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, since 1969, the Federal tax code has penalized 21 million couples annually, not for getting divorced, not for having children out of wedlock, not for shacking up, but for getting married.

When a couple gets married, they are taxed at a higher rate than if they were still single or divorced. The marriage penalty for the average couple is \$1,400. Now this may not seem like much to some, but with an additional \$1,400, an average couple could pay the electric bill for 9 months, pay for 3 or 4 months of day care, pay for a 5-day vacation at Disneyland, pay four or five payments on their minivan, eat out 35 times, purchase 1,053 gallons of gas, and purchase 1,228 loaves of bread.

It is immoral that our tax code discriminates against marriage. We have a tax code that discourages marriage and encourages divorce. Reforming a tax code will restore equity by ensuring that working couples are treated no differently when they get married than they were before.

THE JASON PROJECT

(Mr. FARR of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I stand here before you recognizing that at last night's Oscars the Titanic swept away with 11 awards. It is a fitting occurrence because this is the

year of the oceans. Right now, something more exciting is happening across this country and around the world than anything that was ever put on the big screen. That is what is going on in our classrooms around the United States called the Jason project.

It was started by the man, Bob Ballard, who found the Titanic. He has dedicated his services to science and to education where children at this moment are speaking to scientists that are on the floor of the ocean live. Those scientists are in California and Bermuda, and they are talking back and forth, and students interact with it.

So in this year, the International Year of the Oceans, we have to celebrate that. We also celebrate it, because it is our own money that Congress has put into NOAA and put into the Navy that has helped sponsor this project.

This show goes on all week. And if you are here in the Nation's capital, visit the National Geographic, where the show is live right now. So the Year of the Oceans is get into it. Get into it.

THE OVERWHELMING TAX BURDEN

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, we are now just 22 days away from April 15, tax day. As this dreaded day approaches, now, more than ever, Americans are struggling with an unbelievable tax burden.

On top of their already busy daily routine, the citizens of this Nation are having to file through the 8 billion pages of forms and instructions that the IRS sends out each year. Laid end to end, these forms would stretch 28 times around the Earth.

It is past time to reduce this tremendous burden. The American people want, need, and deserve tax relief. I hope that people throughout this Nation will contact their Representatives and encourage them to begin a national debate on how best to create a fairer, simpler tax system for the American people.

LIBERALS VERSUS CONSERVATIVES

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I often hear from liberals that the labels "liberal" and "conservative" do not mean much anymore. I think that is total nonsense.

One way to distinguish between liberals and conservatives is to look at how a liberal views taxes versus how a conservative does.

A liberal will do everything in his power to make it difficult for others to become rich. A conservative will do everything in his power to help others become rich.